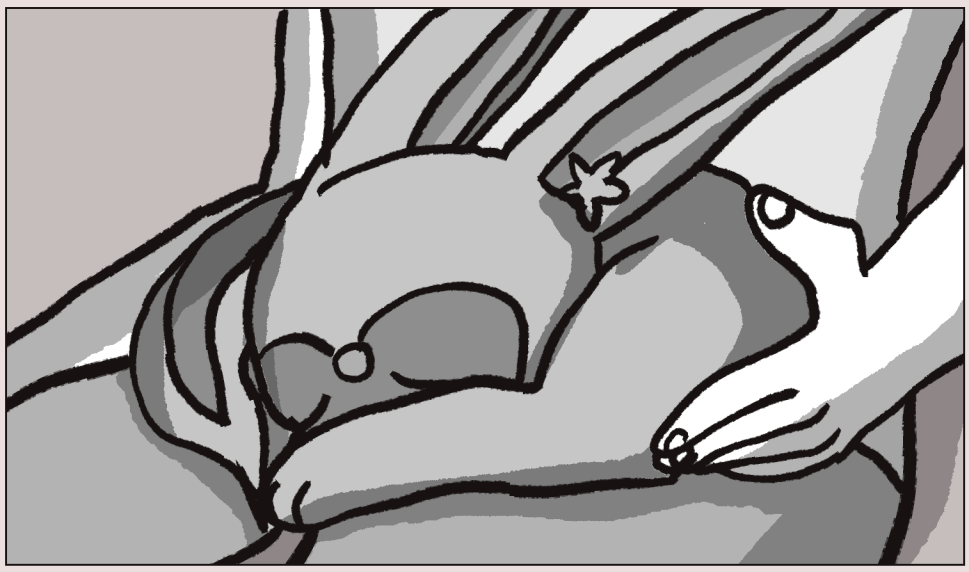
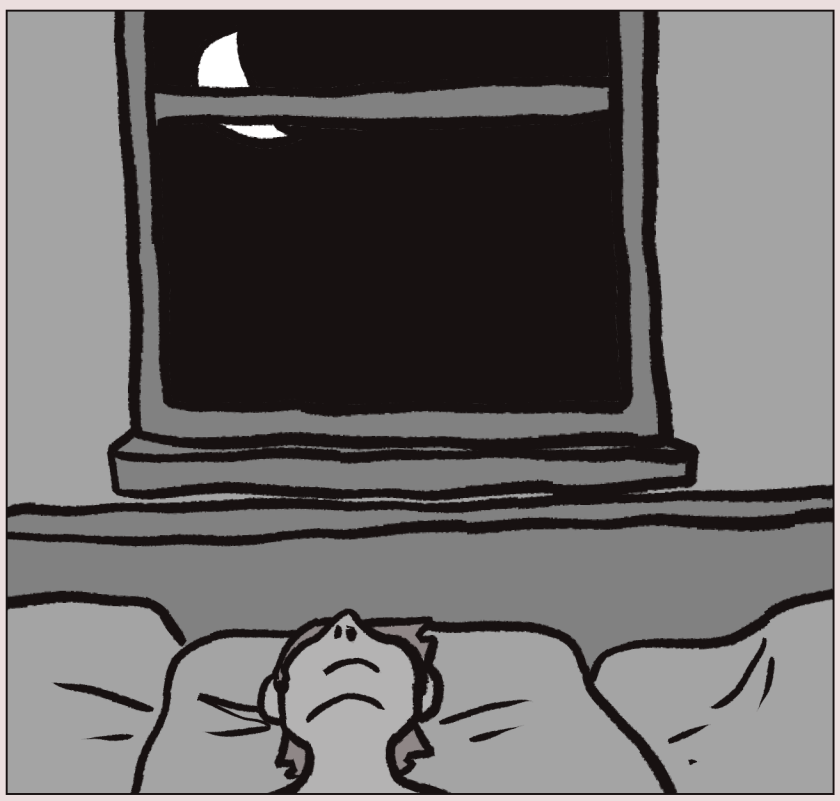
CHAPTER 11

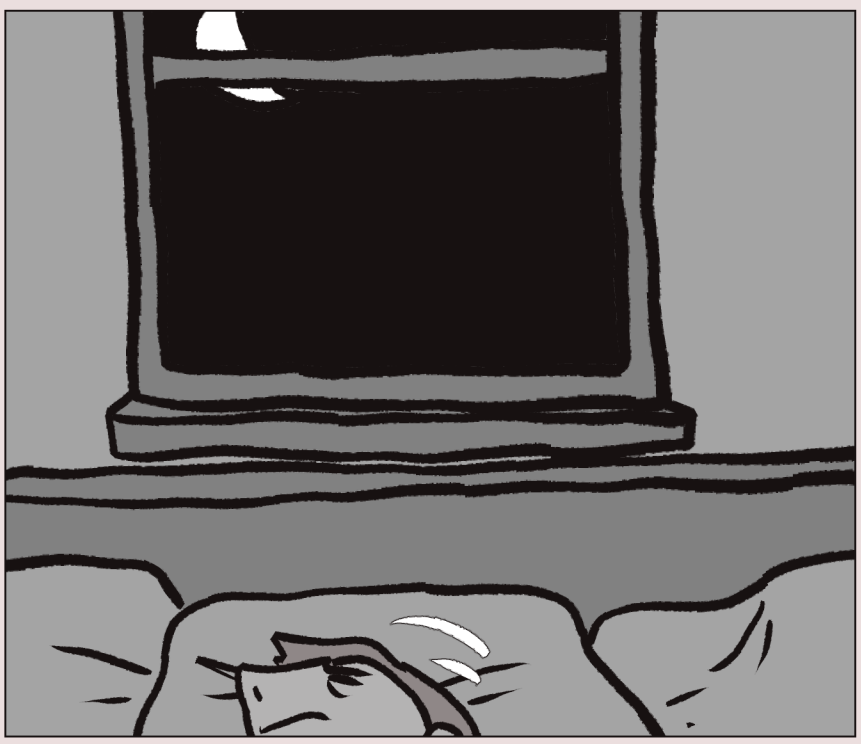


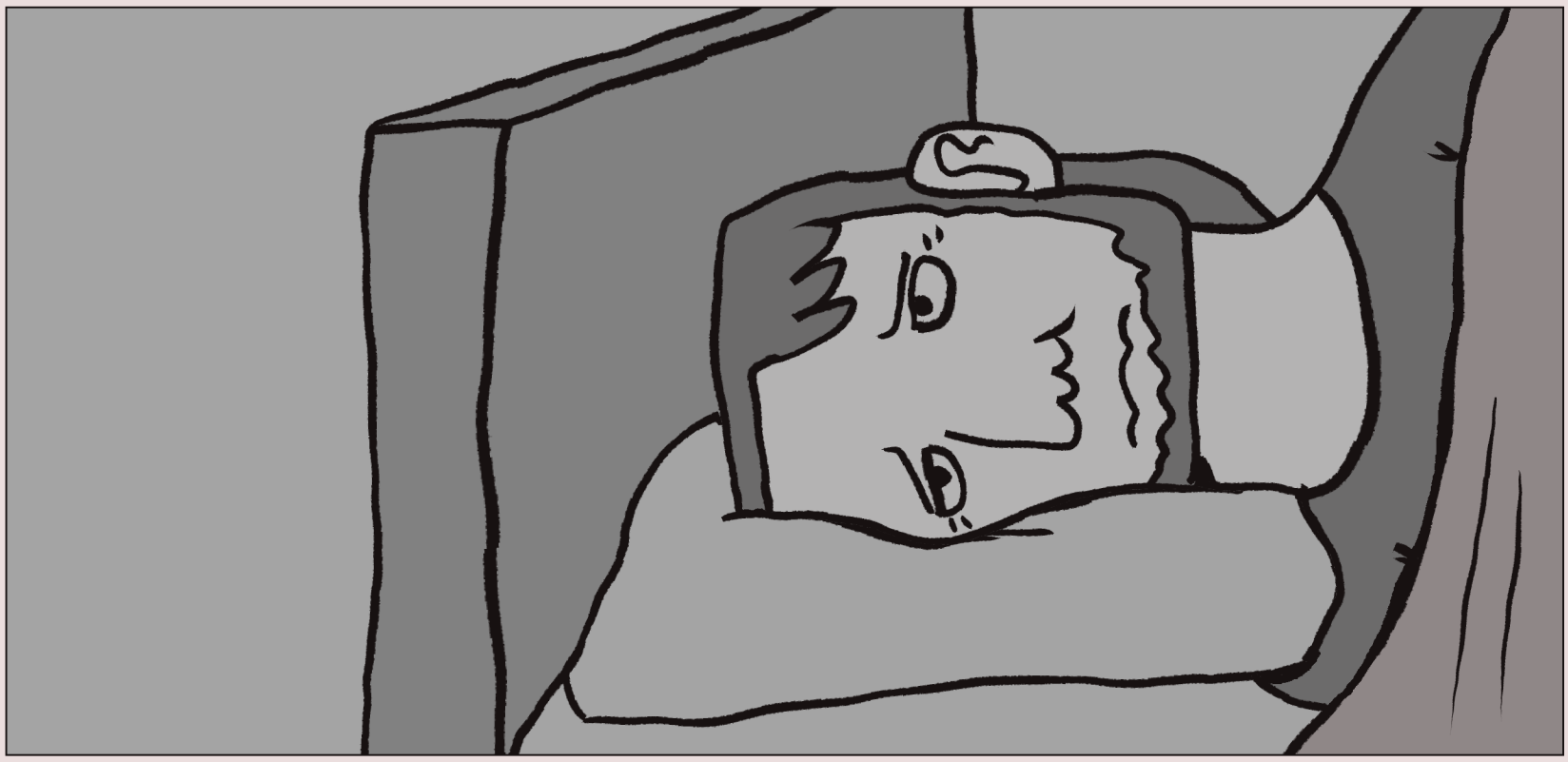
SIGH

Click

shh
shh
shh







I RUINED EVERYTHING.

ONE OF THE FEW FRIENDSHIPS I HAVE, THE ONLY ONE WITH A WOMAN,
AND I HAD TO GO AND... AND...

WHY DOESN'T THIS FEELING GO AWAY?

I DON'T DESERVE THE AFFECTION SHE GAVE ME.

I NEVER DESERVED ANYTHING FROM HER.

WHY'D HE LIE TO ME?

HE WAS SO... KIND AND UNDERSTANDING TO ME, BUT *THIS*...

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN SOMETHING WAS UP, *AGH!* HOW MANY PEOPLE OUT THERE ARE SEVEN-FOOT, SOPHIE?

HOW MANY KNOW ABOUT *MAGICAL ARTIFACTS?*

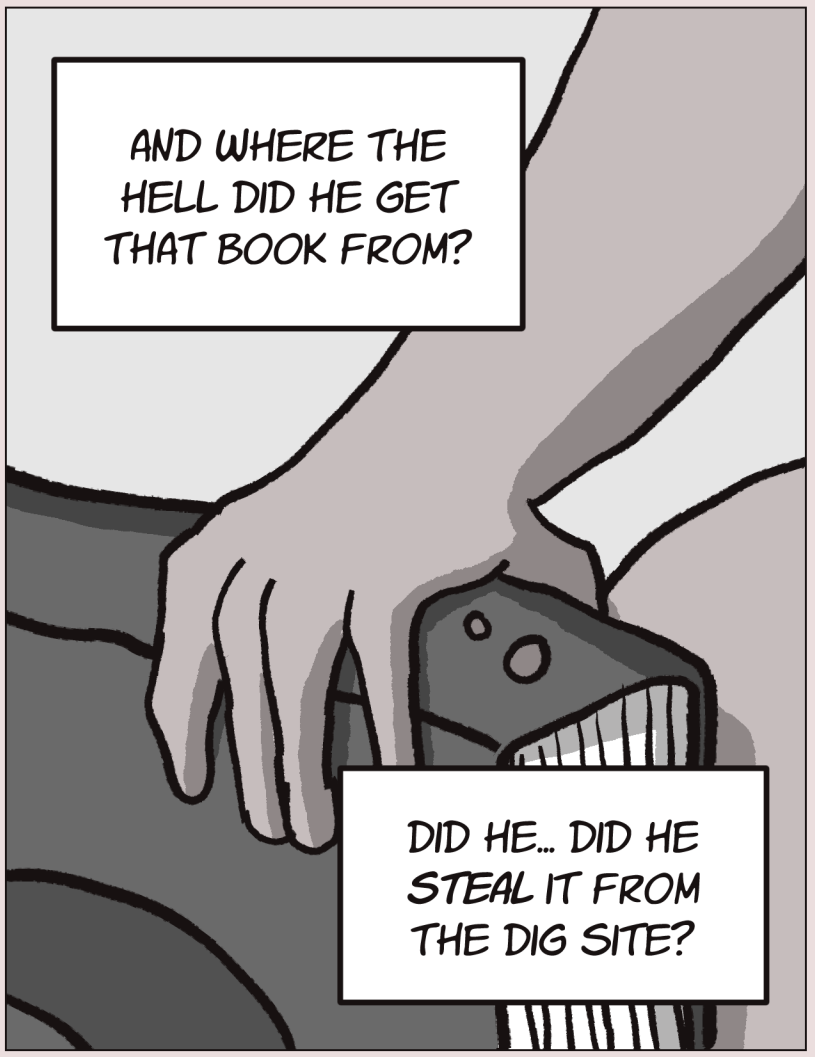
I GOT MY HOPES UP AROUND A PRETTY GIRL-

AND SHE TURNED OUT TO BE *CYRUS* OF ALL PEOPLE.

HE... HE NEVER SEEMED LIKE THE TYPE TO DO THAT. DRESS UP, FIGHT MONSTERS, GO OUTSIDE.

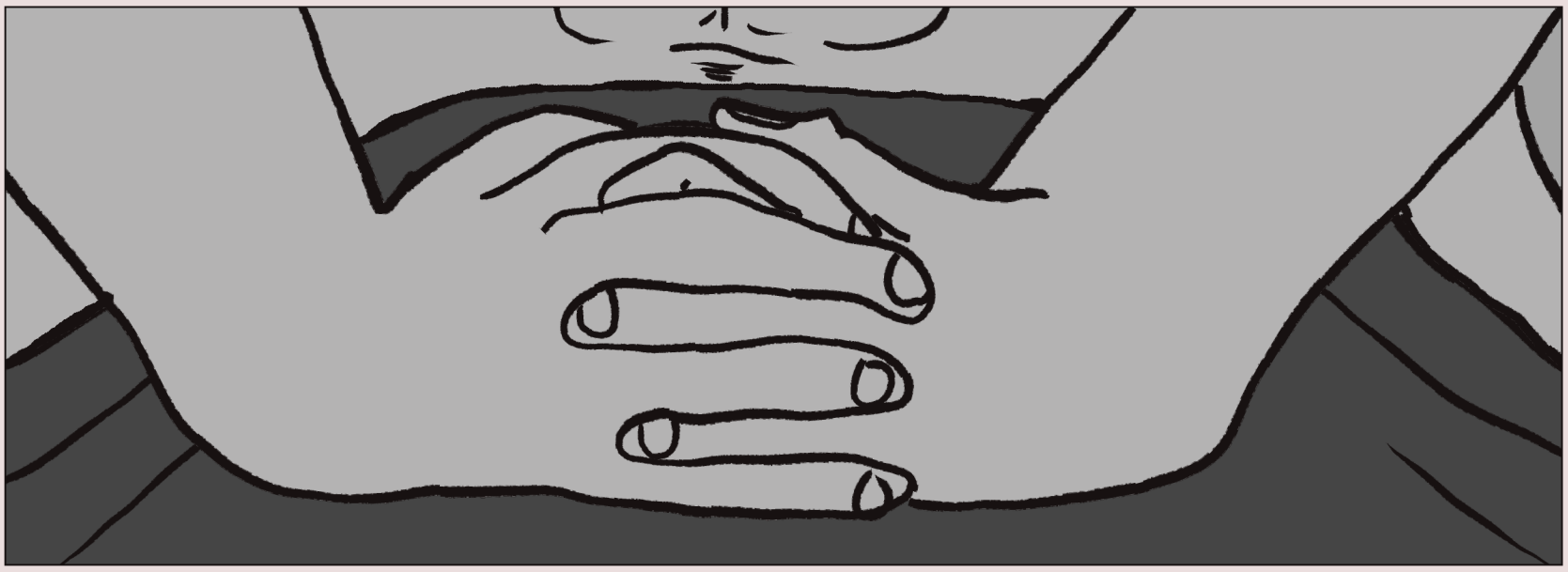
LIE. UGH.

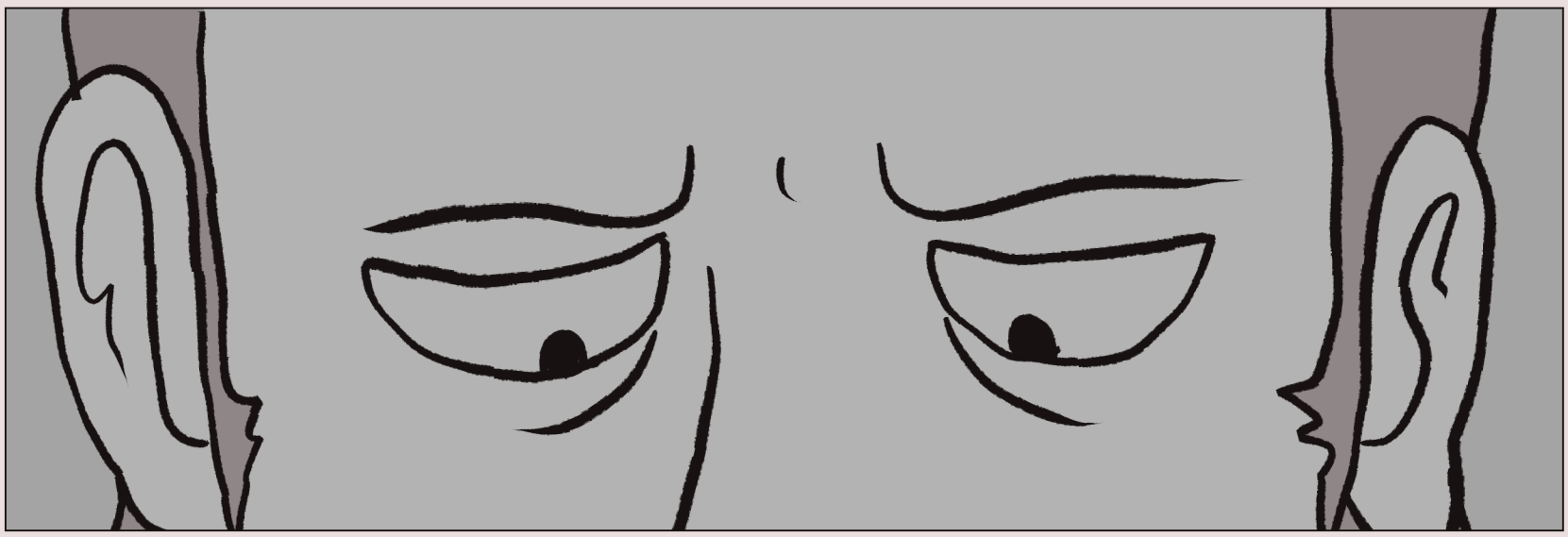
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN A MYSTERY TO ME. I WISH HE STAYED LIKE THAT.


AND WHERE THE HELL DID HE GET THAT BOOK FROM?
DID HE... DID HE STEAL IT FROM THE DIG SITE?

I COULD...

I COULD TELL OUR BOSS.
HE'D PROBABLY GET FIRED.





GOD, NO, WHAT AM I THINKING? I'M PISSED AT HIM, BUT I'M NOT A NARC, I'M NOT GONNA MAKE HIM LOSE HIS JOB. OR TOPAZ.

KNOWING HIM, HE'S GOING TO CALL OUT OF WORK TOMORROW, ANYWAY.

BUT, FUCK, WHAT DO I KNOW ABOUT HIM, ACTUALLY?!

I THOUGHT HE WAS ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS OUT THERE, BUT NO, I WAS A FUCKING IDIOT FOR THINKING THAT!

I SHOULD HAVE KICKED HIS ASS.

SHE'S GOING TO KILL ME TOMORROW.

WHY COULDN'T I HAVE JUST TOLD HER I WASN'T INTERESTED, OR I WAS ALREADY SEEING SOMEBODY, OR- OR *ANYTHING* ELSE?

YOU HAVE A REALLY BEAUTIFUL LAUGH.

WHAT? OF COURSE I DO. YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL LAUGH, A BEAUTIFUL SMILE...

YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, SUMMER.

I'M THE WORST.

I'M AN AWFUL, AWFUL PERSON.

I'M SCUM.

I NEVER DESERVED THOSE WORDS SHE GAVE ME.

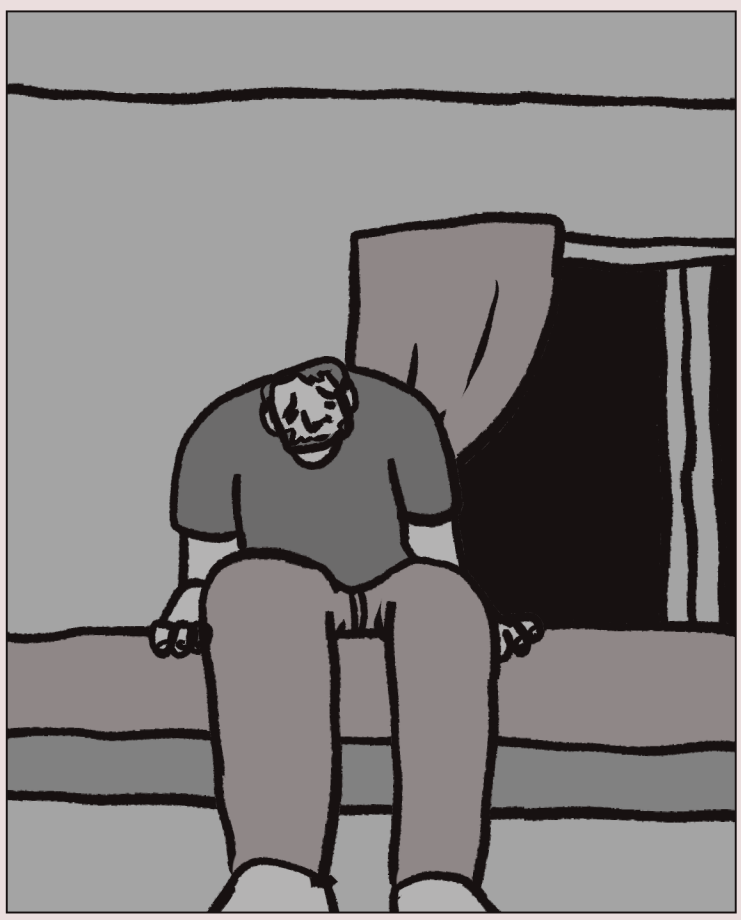
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, SUMMER.

YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, SUMMER.

YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, SUMMER.
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, SUMMER.
BEAUTIFUL,
MMER.
TIFUL,
R.

WHY DID SHE HAVE TO SAY THAT?

WHY ARE THESE FEELINGS COMING BACK?



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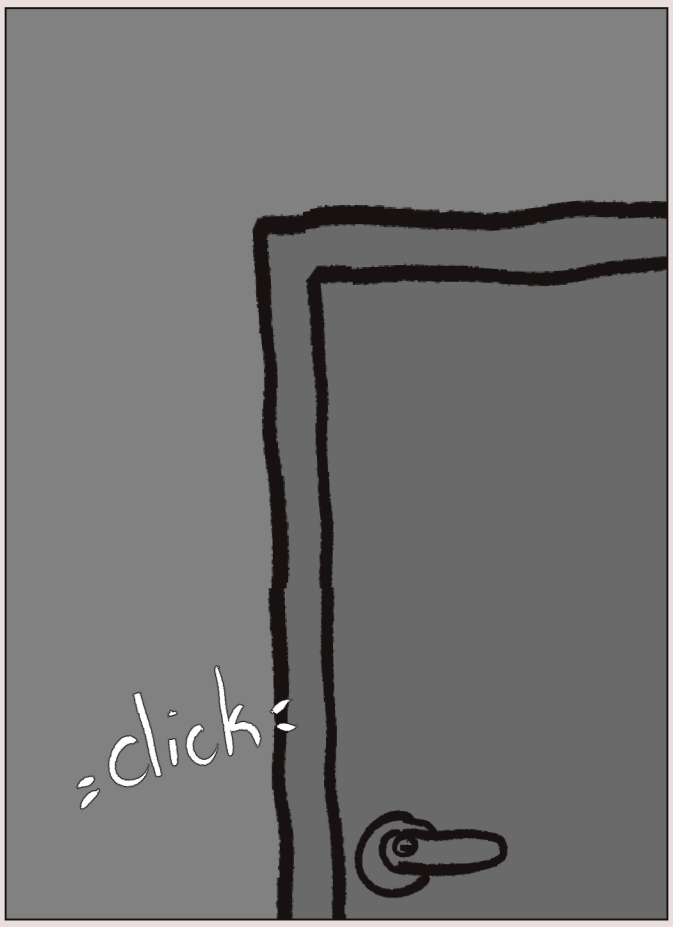
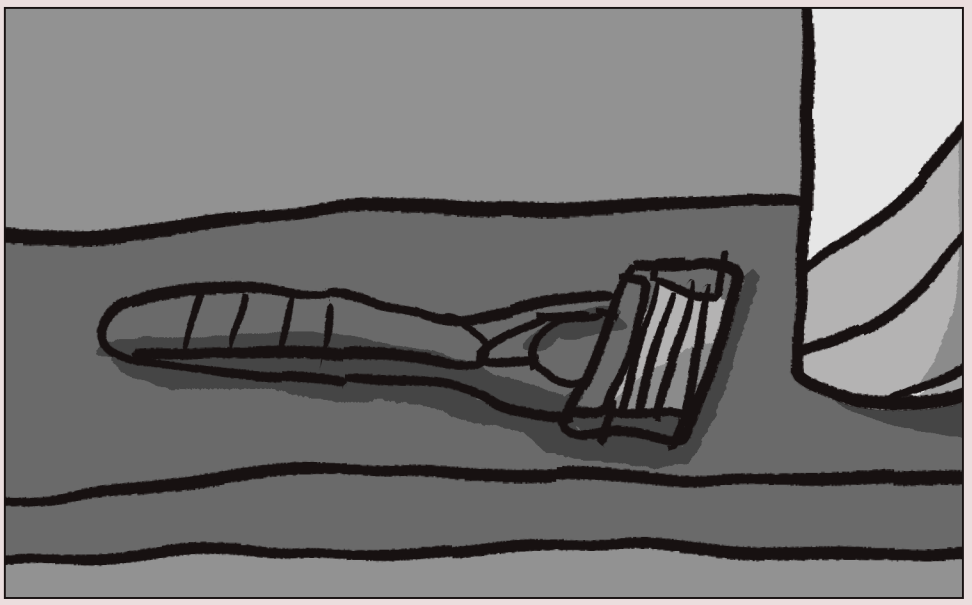
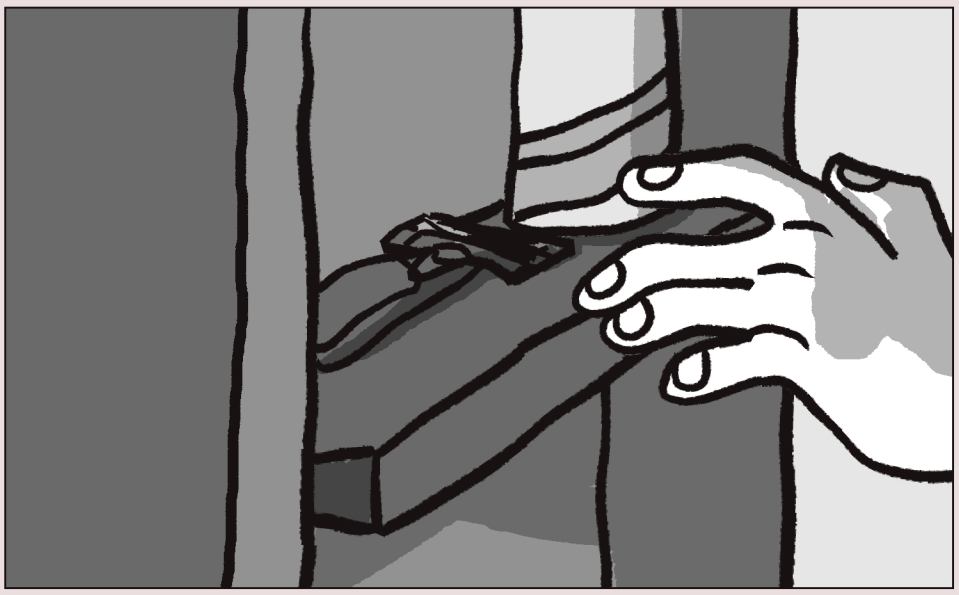
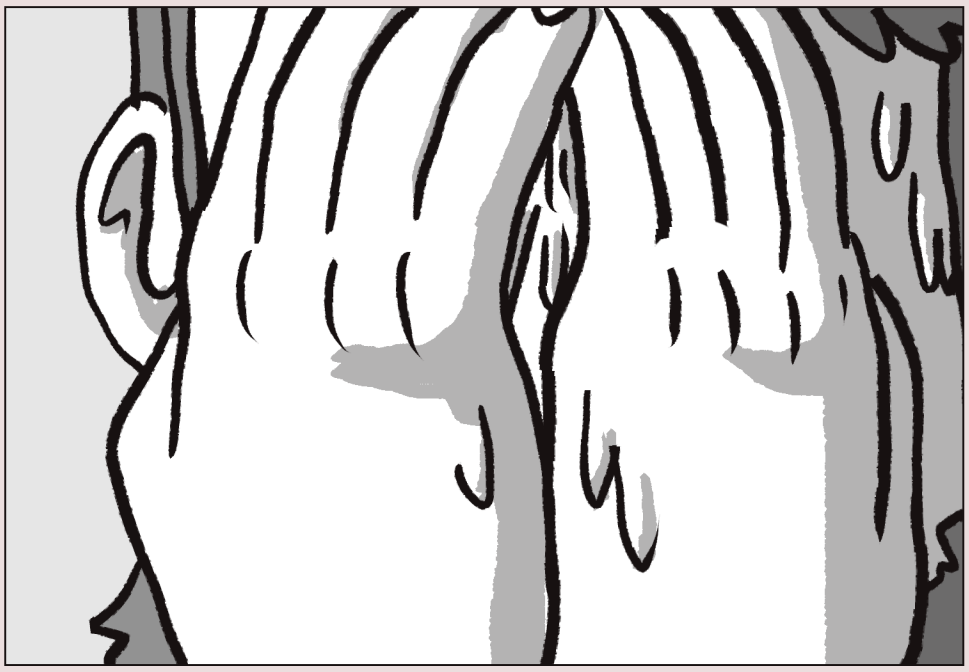

:click:

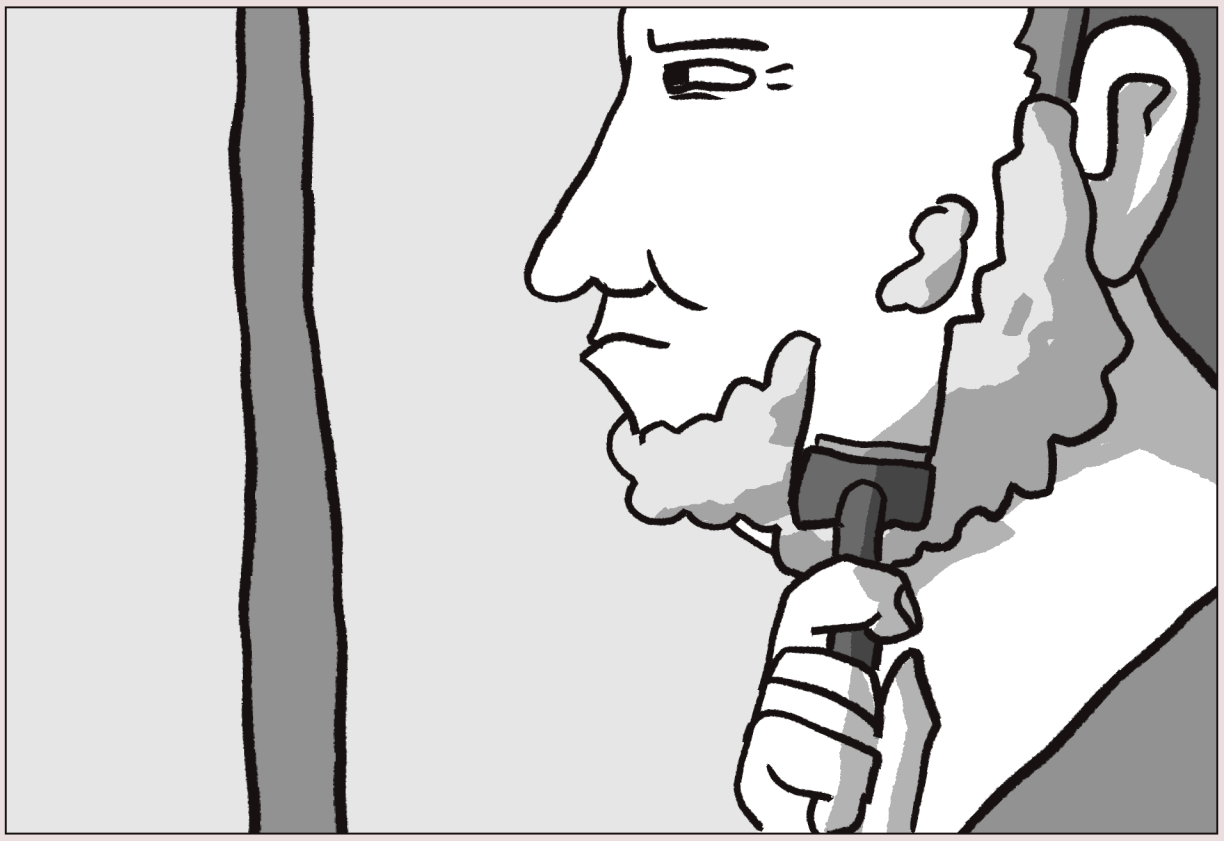
WHAT THE HELL DID SHE SEE, EXACTLY?

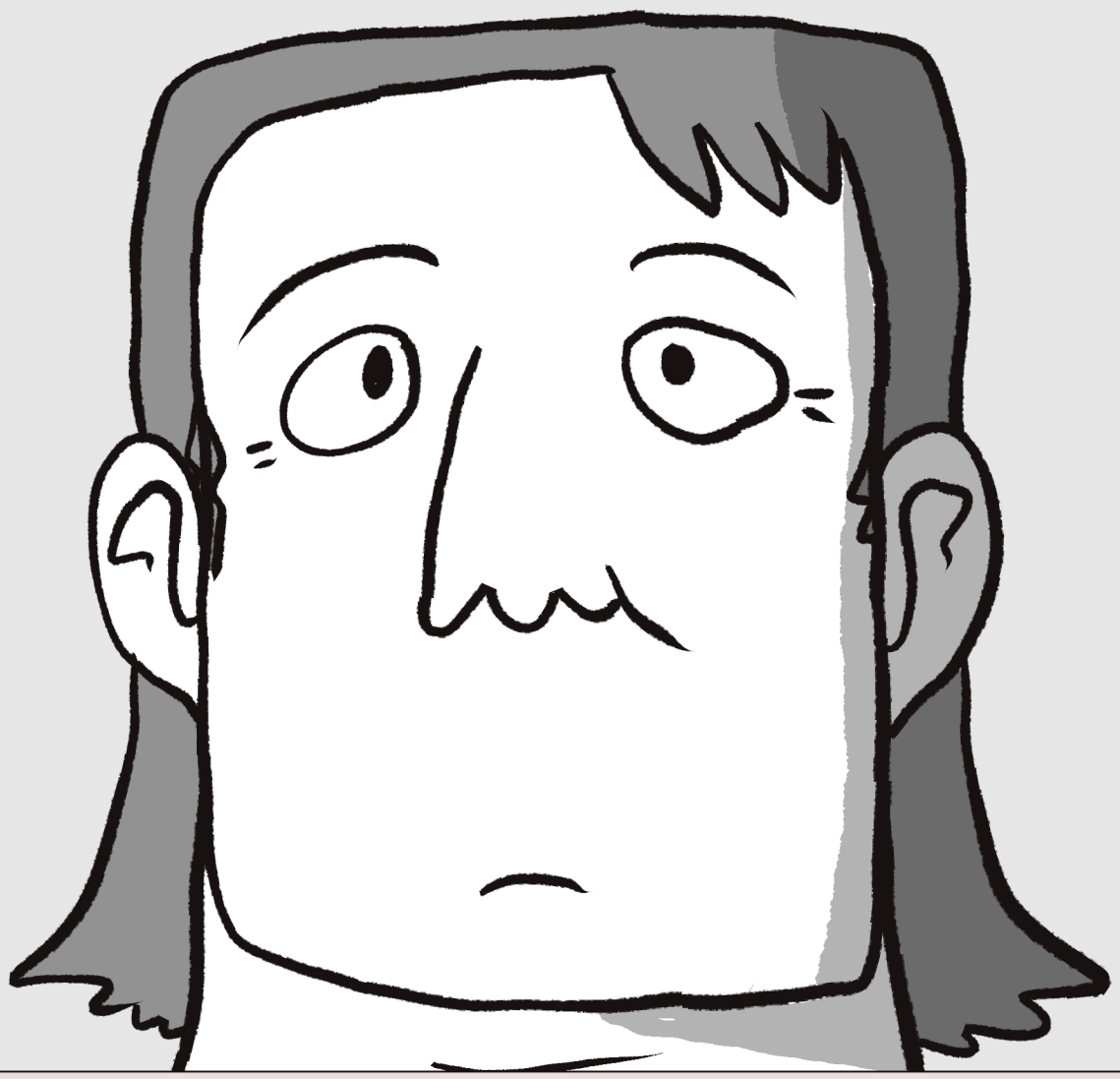
I LOOK LIKE...
I LOOK LIKE HIM.

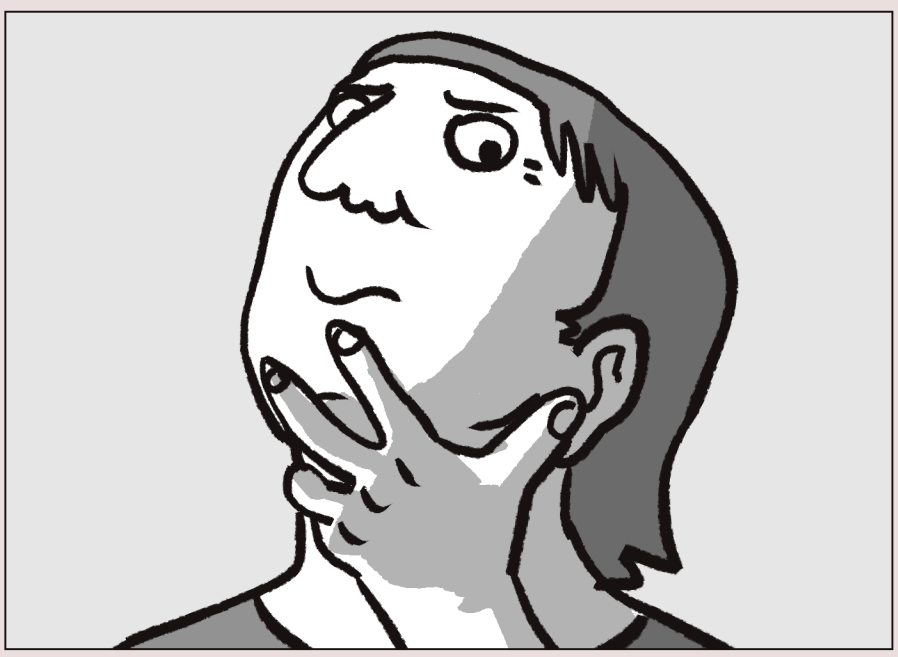


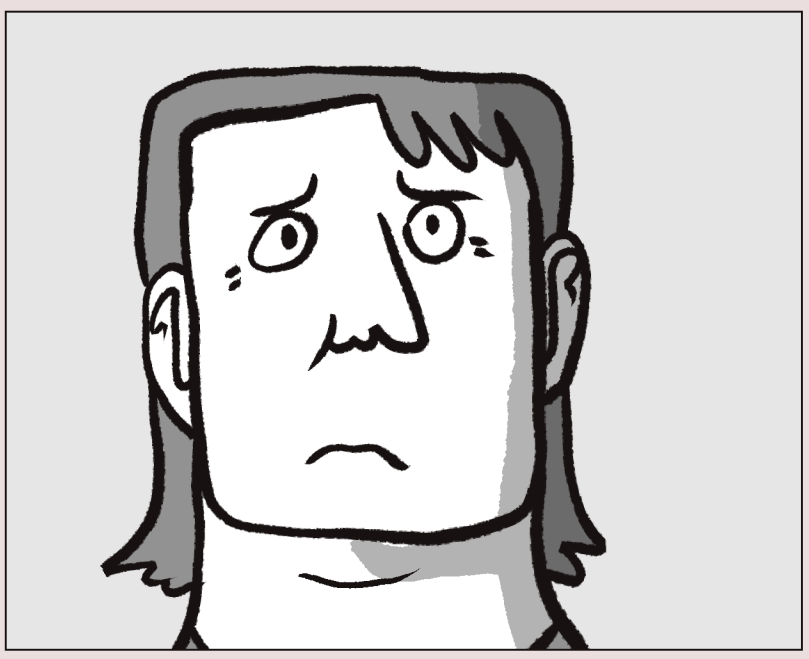






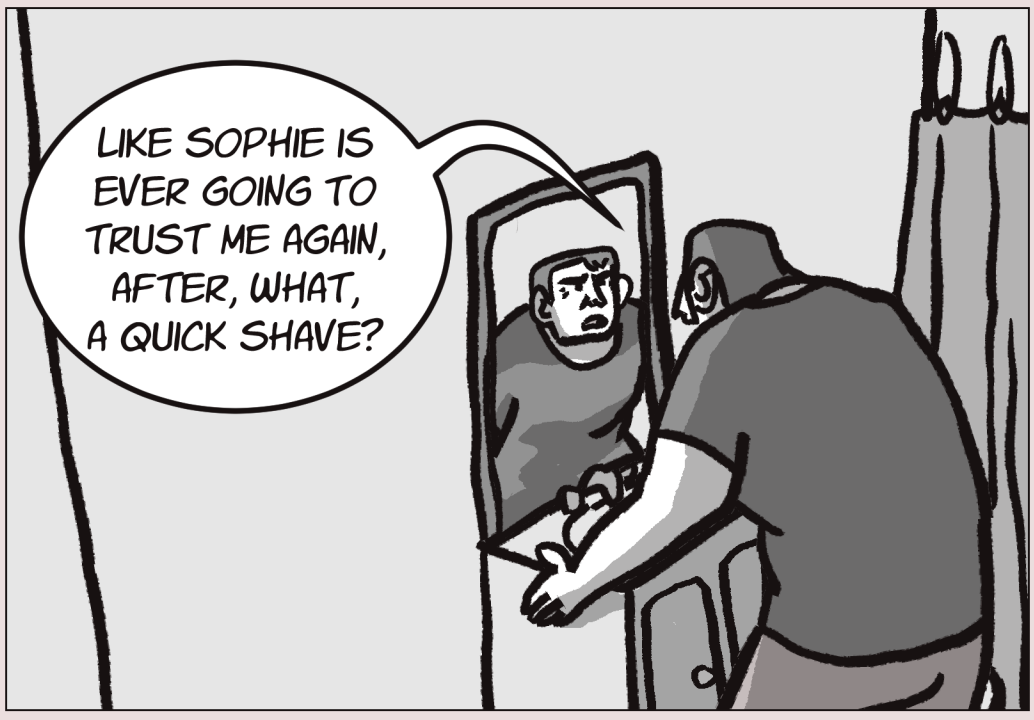






THIS WAS STUPID...

WHAT EXACTLY AM I TRYING TO DO? FOR WHO?


LIKE SOPHIE IS EVER GOING TO TRUST ME AGAIN, AFTER, WHAT, A QUICK SHAVE?

I'M SO FUCKING STUPID.
FUCK.
FUCK!

I DON'T EVEN LOOK LIKE-!

LIKE...

LIKE HER.

LIKE SUMMER.

IF I GREW MY HAIR OUT, OR- OR IF I WORE MAKEUP, THEN MAYBE-

NO, NO I DON'T WANT TO LOOK LIKE HER. I DON'T. WHY WOULD I?

I JUST- I WANT SOMEONE TO-

...WHAT...?

I'M DESPERATE. I'M LONELY. I'M FUCKING PATHETIC. THAT'S ALL. THAT'S IT! THAT'S THE ONLY REASON. SOPHIE LOOKED AT ME. SHE LOOKED AT ME, AND SAW ME AS- AS DESIRABLE. AS SOMEONE WORTH HER TIME. AND I NEEDED THAT. THAT DESIRE. THAT WANT. SHE WANTED ME. I- I WANT HER I WANT HER SO BAD.

THAT'S ALL THERE IS.

I WANT SOPHIE, THAT'S IT.

SHE'S DIGUSTED WITH YOU.

YOU'RE A MAN.

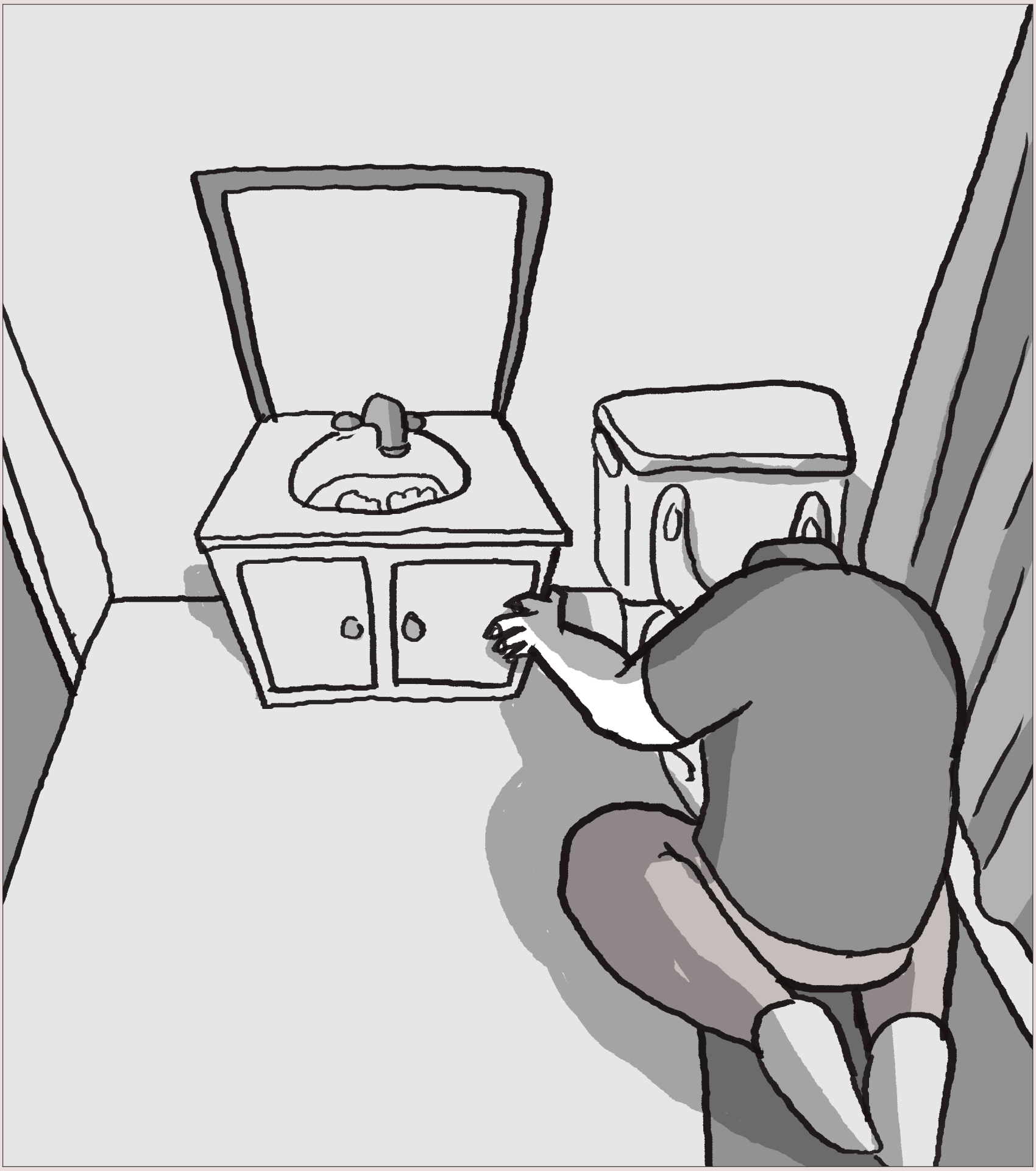
YOU'RE A MAN.

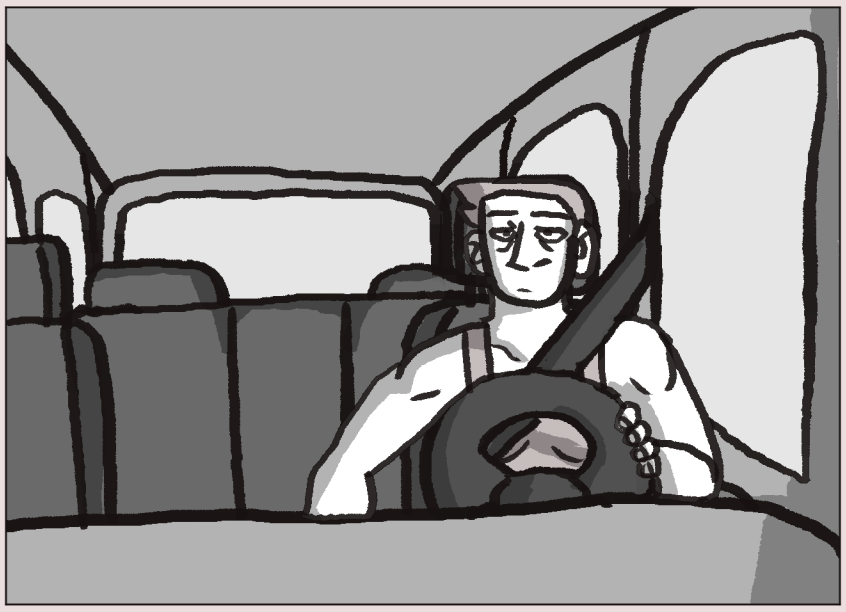
YOU'RE A MAN.

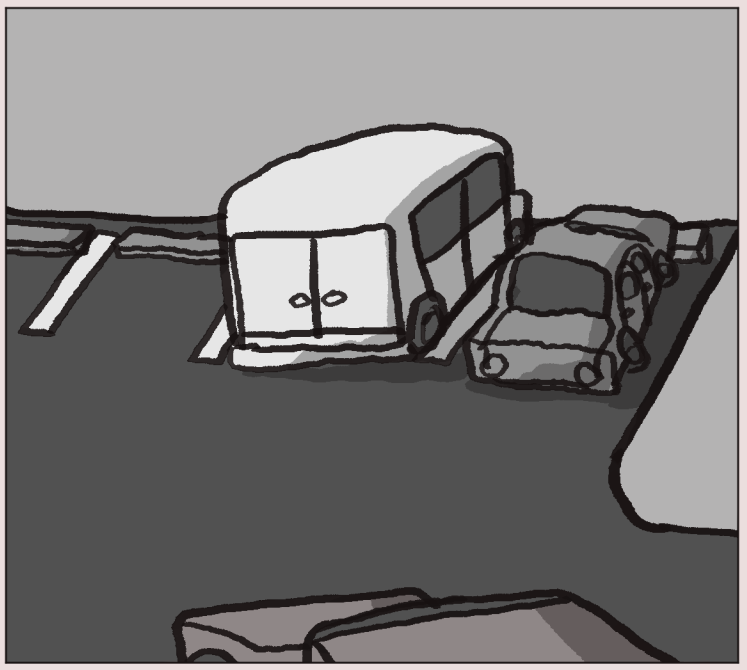
YOU'RE A MAN.

YOU'RE A MAN.

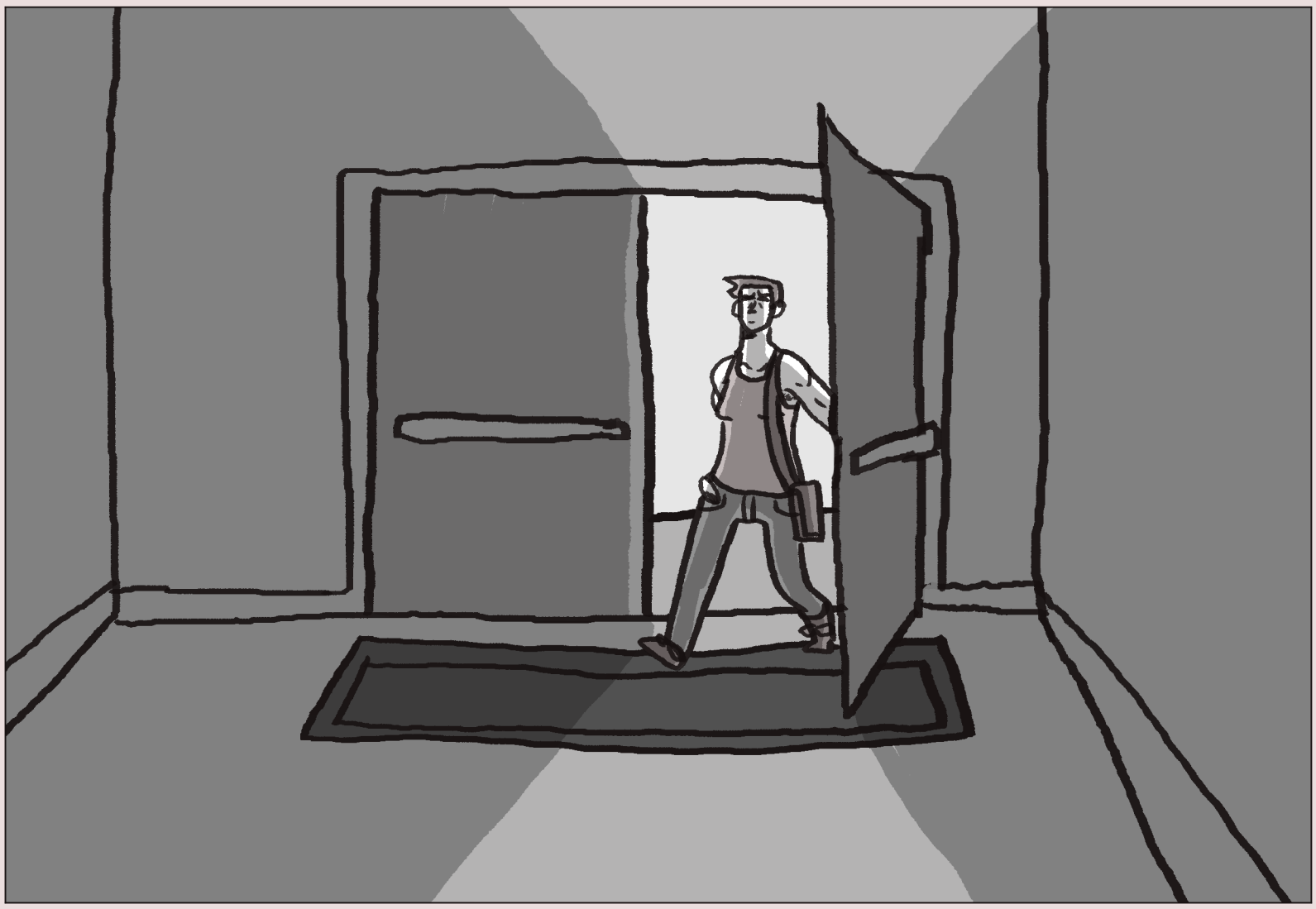
YOU'RE A MAN.





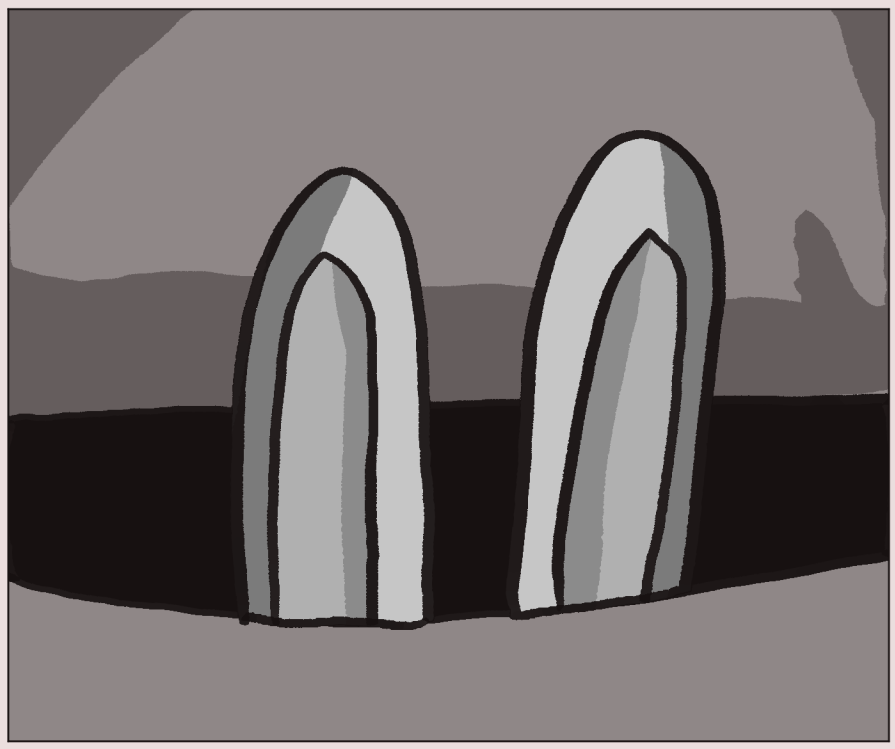


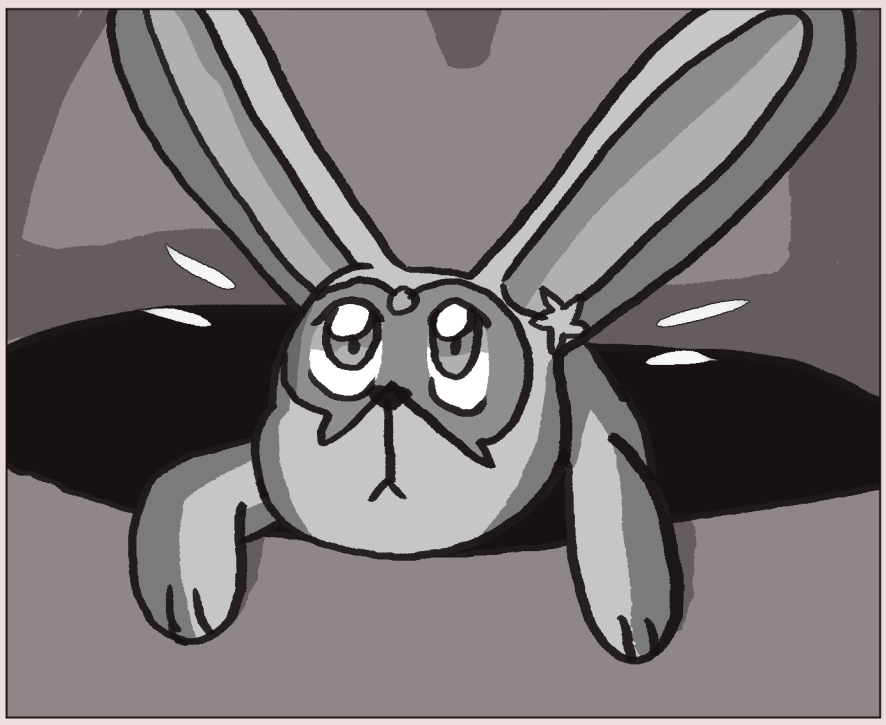
GUESS HE DID SHOW UP TODAY.
COLOR ME SURPRISED.



shff

WE'RE IN
THE CLEAR.





WOW!

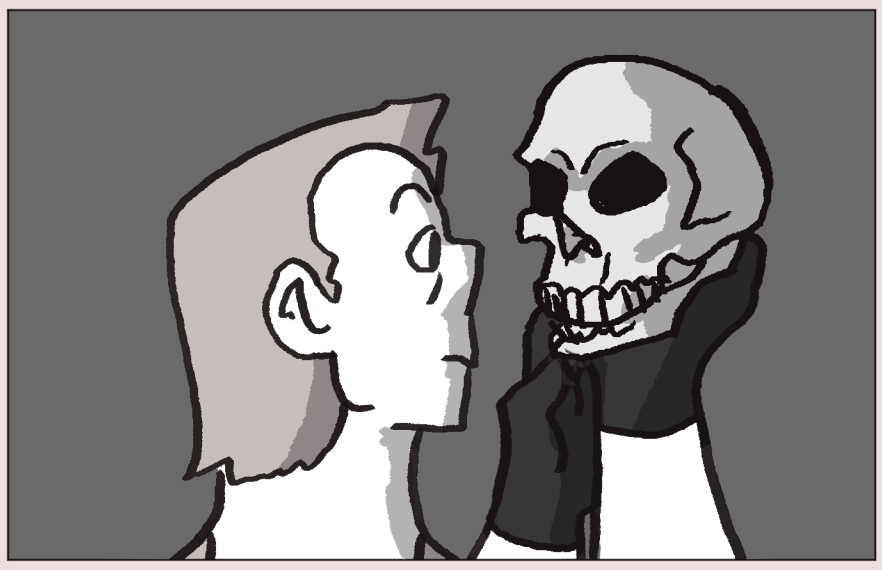
YOUR CLOSET IS SO MUCH COOLER THAN CYRUS'S!

NOT A CLOSET, DEAR.

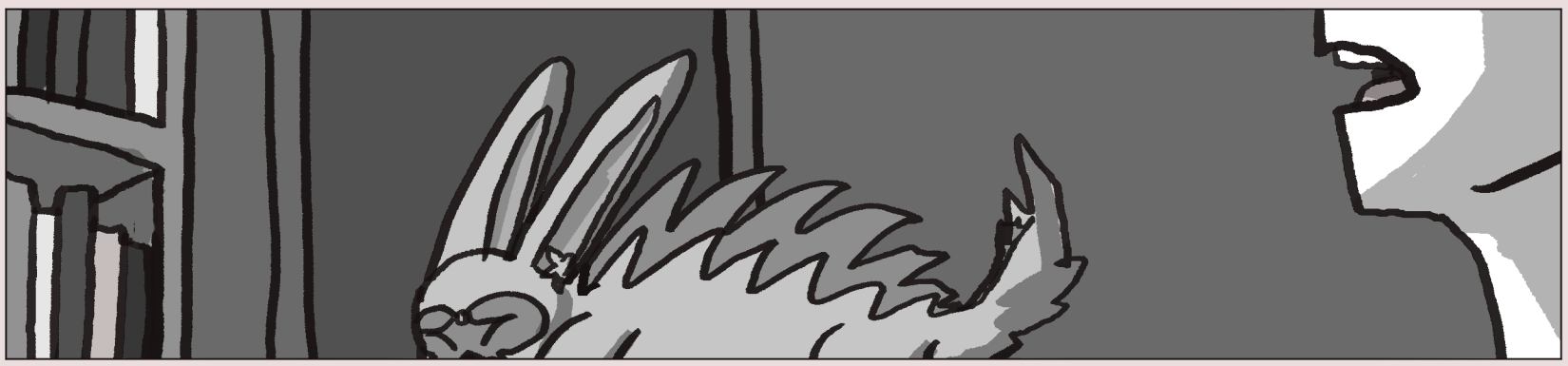
IT'S AN OFFICE.

heh...

NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, THE BOYS FOUND A SKULL AT THE SITE THIS MORNING, AND I'M IN CHARGE OF HUMAN REMAINS.



HEY TOPAZ, YOU EVER SEE-

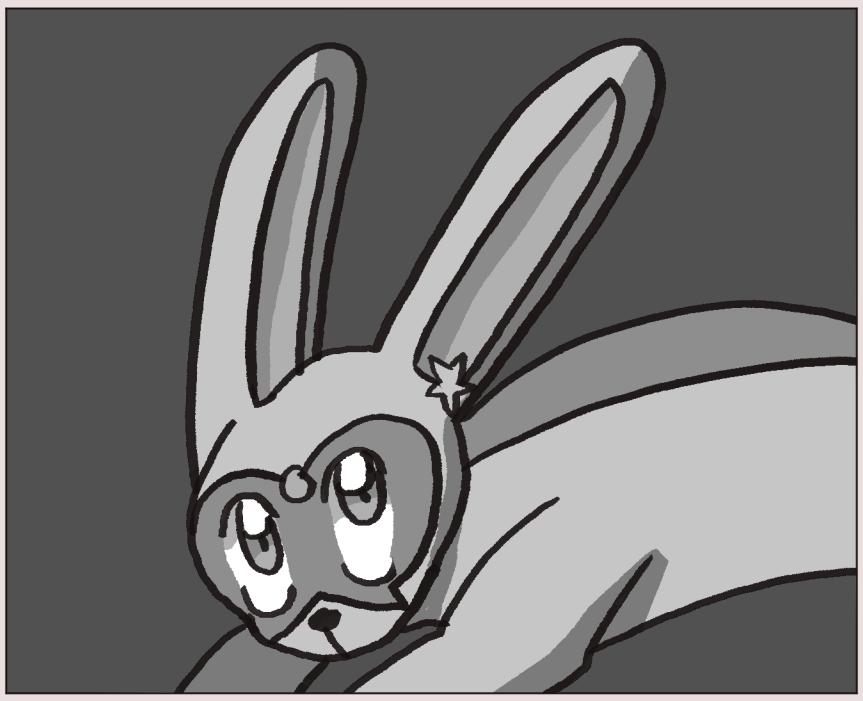


HEY, HEY
IT'S ALRIGHT.
I'M SORRY.

I SOMETIMES FORGET
THAT NOT EVERYONE
LIKES SEEING BONES
AND STUFF.

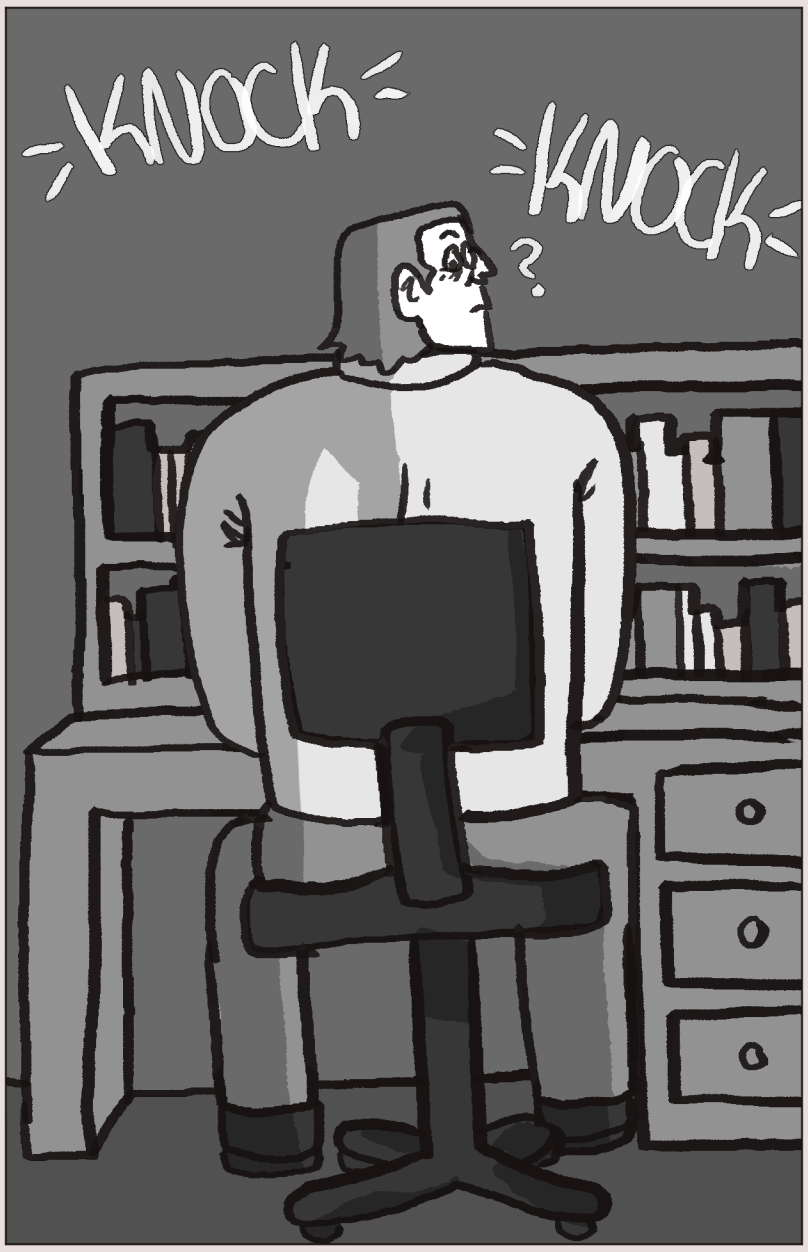
I STILL NEED
TO SO MY JOB,
THOUGH...

MAYBE...



DO YOU
WANT TO...

STAY WITH
CYRUS FOR
THE DAY?


KNOCK
KNOCK
?

YES...?

OH-

YOU, UH-
YOU SHAVED.

SOPHIE, I, I-
LISTEN- DON'T. JUST-

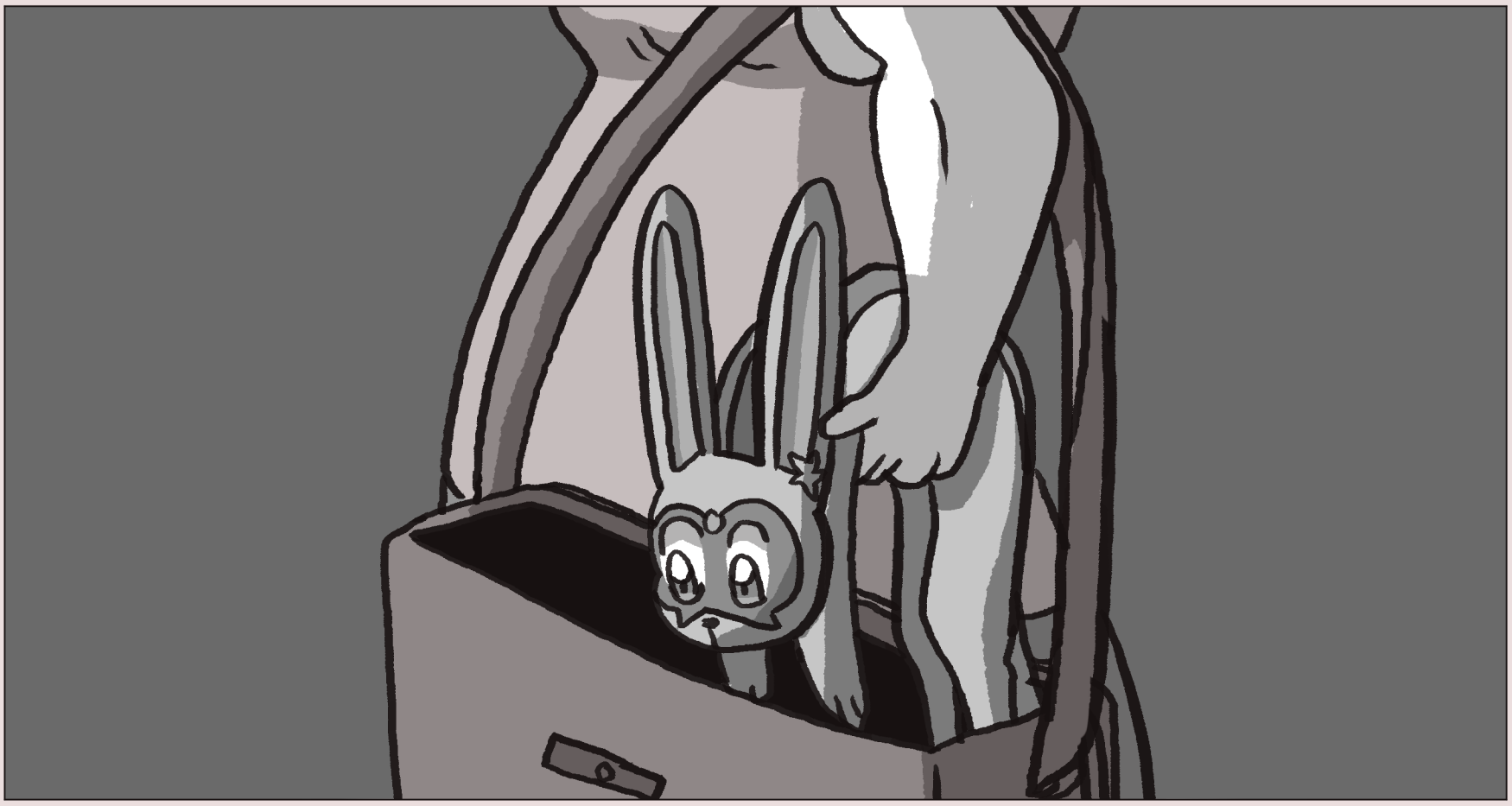
TOPAZ DOESN'T LIKE THE SKULL WE FOUND THIS MORNING,
AND THEY WANT TO STAY WITH YOU WHILE I LOOK AT IT.

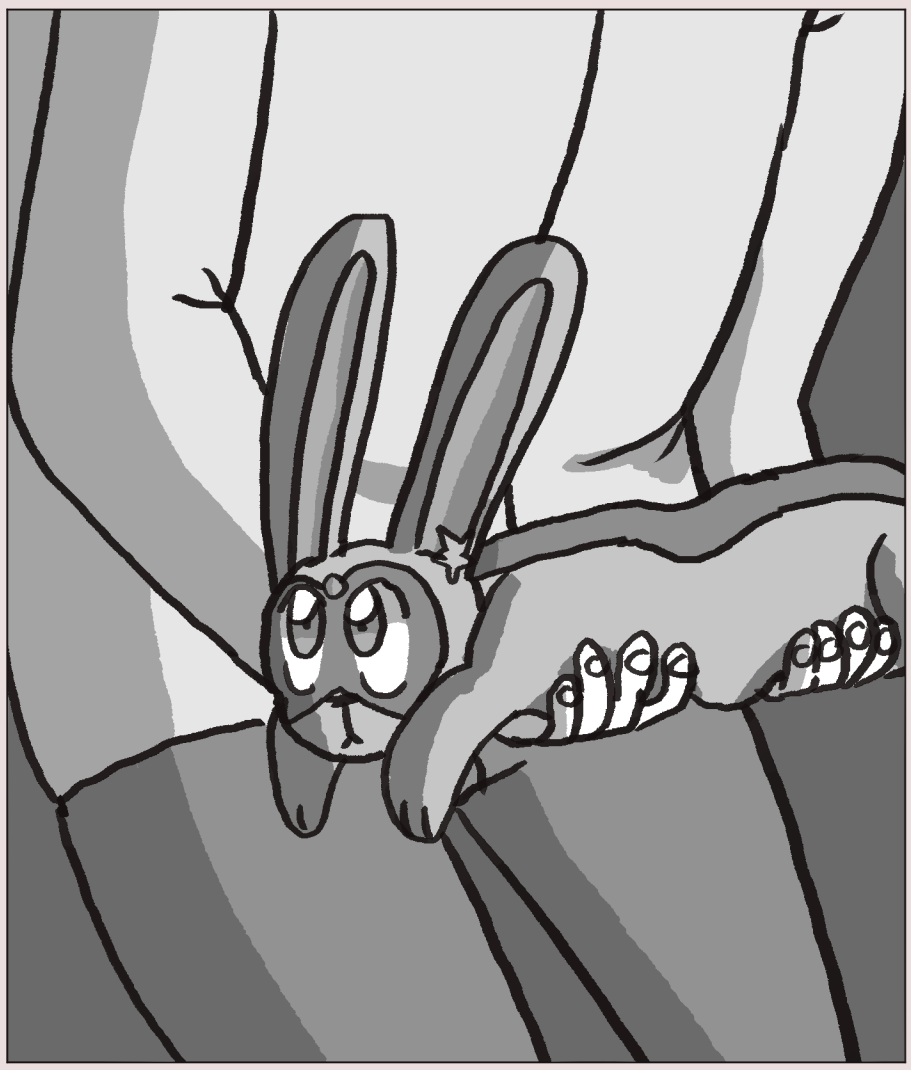
I CAN TAKE THEM BACK AT THE END OF THE DAY.

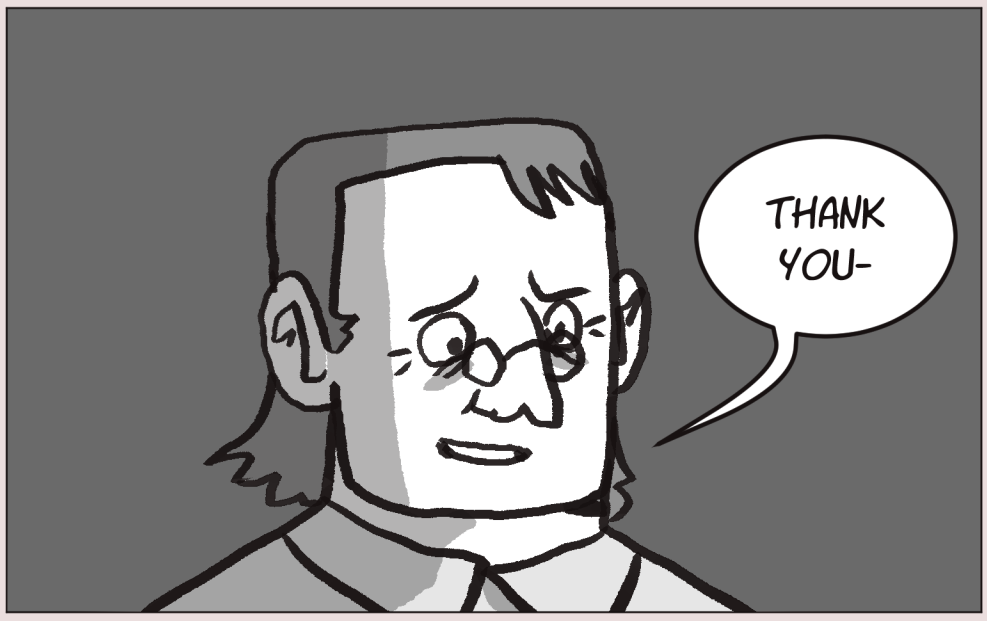
FOR THEIR SAKE, AND THEIR SAKE ONLY.

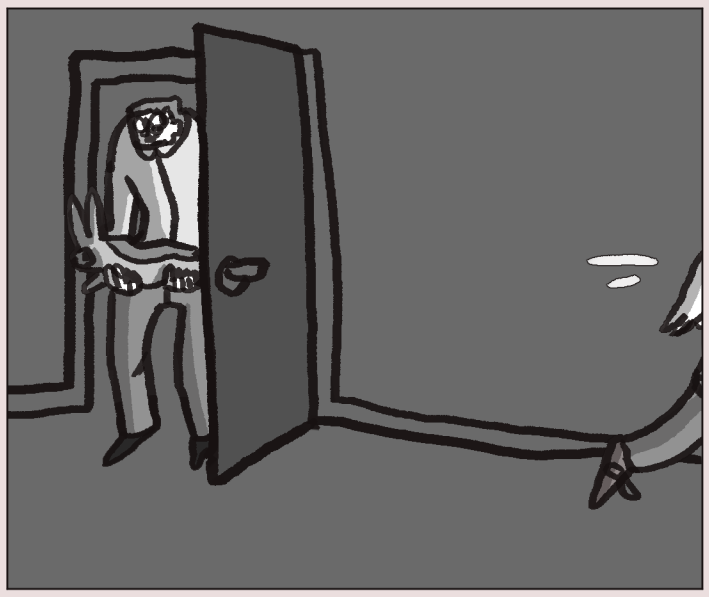
nod

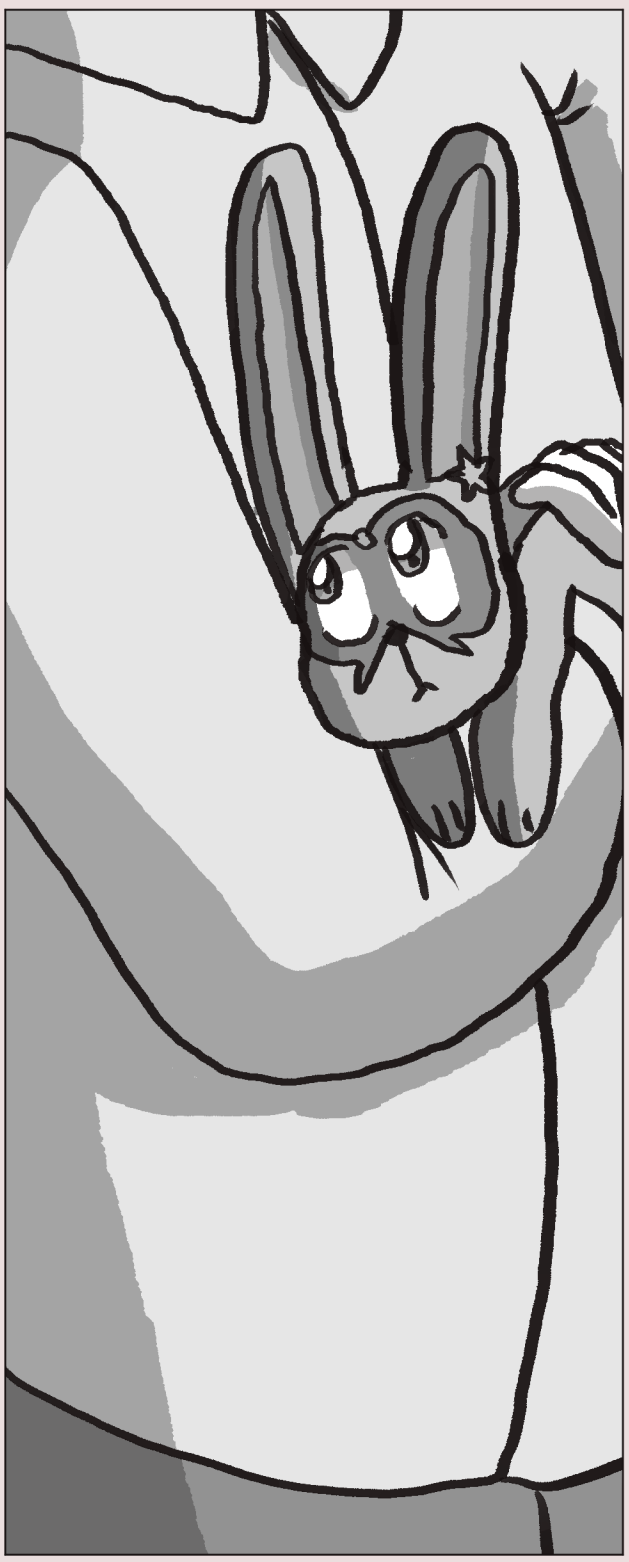
GOOD TO KNOW WE'RE ON THE SAME PAGE.






THANK
YOU-





WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE?

HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
?
HA

I SHAVED OFF MY BEARD.
YOU CAN DO THAT?

YEAH. IT WAS PRETTY EASY, TOO.
HUMANS ARE SO FASCINATING!

AREN'T WE JUST.